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August 9, 1968

TO : L - Mr. Salans

FROM : L/C - Ernest L. Kerley

SUBJECT: Draft Diplomatic Notes in U.S.S. Liberty Personal Injury Claims

The attached draft notes are submitted now for your approval so that we will be ready to go when computations are concluded. We have sent you carbons in order to retain the originals for reproduction if you approve the texts.

The texts differ only in that the note concerning claims above $1,000 contains a description of the injuries suffered whereas the note concerning claims for less than $1,000 merely alleges that the claimant was injured. We think the Government of Israel will want to consider the nature and severity of the injuries in the larger claims, but that they will not in the smaller claims. Moreover, it is difficult, and possibly unwise, to try to describe the injuries in the very small claims. In our records, the description of the injuries in the very small claims is often extremely brief, e.g. "laceration of right forearm." Moreover, to include such description may invite a dialogue with the Israelis concerning whether a lacerated arm is worth $200 or $300, and it is almost impossible to say which figure is appropriate in such cases.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 1/10/83
EXCISE CONTENT, DATE
18 AU.L. EXEMPTION(S)
EXCISE EXISTING SEGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED RELEASABLE ☑
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

Attachments:

Two draft notes.

L:L/C:ELKerley:ams